

Shenandoah National Park

Backcountry Camping Trip Guide



Trip Name: Hannah, Hot-Short, and Catlett

Description: Wilderness area, cascading streams, swimming holes, park history

Entry: 35 MP - Hannah Run Parking

Exit: 35 MP - Hannah Run Parking

Map(s): PATC #10 Central District

Level: Strenuous Beginner or Experienced

Total Length: 9.1 miles

Day One

Campsite: Nicholson Hollow Trail - backcountry

4 miles

Hike down Hannah Run 3.8 miles. After crossing stream and over ridge, look right for ruins of an old home site.

Turn left onto Nicholson Hollow and hike 0.2 miles to Hot Mountain-Short Mountain.

Camp along Nicholson Hollow, taking your time to find a nice, legal campsite.

Day Two

5.1 miles

Return to Hot Mountain-Short Mountain.

Turn left onto Hot Mountain-Short Mtountain, hiking 2.1 miles.

Note the stone wall on either side of the trail that would have been used to contain livestock such as sheep or cattle.

Turn left onto Hazel Mountain for 0.5 mile.

Turn left onto Catlett Mountain and hike 1.2 miles.

Note the mining pit on the right, on this section of the trail as it continues.

At second junction, bear to the right, hiking uphill on Hannah Run 1.3 miles.

Notes

Nicholson Hollow is a large drainage. Consider hiking further downstream past the Hot-Short junction. Small waterfalls, cascades, and swimming holes abound.

Groups of up to 10 will find enough room to camp legally, by looking for a site almost a half-mile downstream of Nicholson Hollow's junction with Hot Mountain-Short Mountain.

Options

If you camp in a pre-existing site, by staying in your site a second night, you could make this a two-night trip. There are plenty of day hikes and swimming holes that can be enjoyed on your second day.
